ONE-HUNDRED AND SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

The Victoria General Hospital

FOR THE PERIOD FROM

JANUARY 1, 1968 TO DECEMBER 31, 1968

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To His Honour.

The Honourable Mr. V. de B. Oland
Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia

I have the honour respectfully to submit herewith the one-hundred and second Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital at Halifax.

I have the honour to be.

Your obedient servant,
R. A. DONAHOE,
Minister of Public Health

The Honourable Mr. R. A. Donahoe, Q.C.
Minister of Public Health,
Province of Nova Scotia

Sir:

We have the honour to submit to you the One-Hundred and Second Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital, covering the period January 1st, 1968 to December 31st, 1968.

H. R. WYMAN
Chairman, Board of Commissioners.

MINISTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

THE HONOURABLE MR. RICHARD A. DONAHOE, Q.C.

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Miss J. A. Stewart, B.Sc., P.Dt. Director of Dietetics

Miss K. Kinley, Ph.C., Chief Pharmacist

Miss M. T. Gillis, B.Sc., R.N., Supervisor of Out Patient Department

R. F. Horne, Maintenance Manager and Chief Engineer

A. G. Moignard, Stores Manager

DEPARTMENTS

Department	Head of Department
Medicine	Robert C. Dickson, O.B.E., C.D., M.D., F.R.C.P., (C), F.A.C.P.
Preventive Medicine	M. R. Macdonald, M.D., C.M., D.P.H., F.A.P.H.A.
Surgery	G. W. Bethune, B.Sc., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S. (C)
Gynaecology	W. R. C. Tupper, M.D., C.M., B.Sc., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S., F.A.C.O.G., Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (Dal)
Urology	C. L. Gosse, B.Sc., M.D., C.M., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S.
Radiology	J. S. Manchester, M.D., C.M.
Radiotheraphy	R. M. Cunningham, M.D., D.M.R.T.
Psychiatry	R. O. Jones, B.Sc., M.D., C.M., F.A.P.A.
Neurosurgery	W. D. Stevenson, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S. (C)
Anaesthesia	C. C. Stoddard, M.D., C.M., F.A.C.A., F.I.C.A.
Pathology	D. O. W. Waugh, M.D., C.M., M.Sc., Ph.D.
Bacteriology	C. E. vanRooyen, M.D., Ch.B., D.Sc., M.R.C.P., F.R.C.P. (C)
Dental Surgery	F. W. Lovely, D.D.S., M.S.

ANALYSIS OF HOSPITAL SERVICE FOR THE YEAR 1968

Service	Patients Discharged	Improved	Died			Autopsies	% of Autopsies	Total Days Stay	Average Days Stay	No. of Consults	% of Consults
			Over 48 hrs.	Under 48 hrs.	Total Deaths						
Surgery A	367	352	11	3	14	6	42.86	5627	15.3	178	48.50
Surgery B	511	490	18	3	21	13	61.90	7786	15.2	191	37.38
Surgery C	488	464	18	6	24	18	75.00	6557	13.4	217	44.49
Surgery D	582	528	46	8	54	34	62.96	9255	15.9	317	54.47
Breast Surgery	149	137	12	–	12	5	41.67	2778	18.6	131	87.92
Plastic Surgery	352	351	1	–	1	1	100.00	3830	10.9	99	25.28
Neurosurgery	894	850	25	19	44	39	88.63	9344	10.5	304	34.00
Urology	951	939	12	–	12	7	58.33	11003	11.6	310	32.60
Gynecology	1128	1121	7	–	7	3	42.86	8621	7.6	469	41.58
Orthopedics	375	371	4	–	4	1	25.00	7810	20.8	174	46.40
E. E. N. T.	447	445	2	–	2	–	-	5213	11.66	168	37.58
Psychiatry	157	157	–	–	–	–	–	3911	24.9	115	73.25
Medicine	2353	2131	153	69	222	141	63.51	38661	16.45	1083	46.03
Private Patients	4608	4527	73	8	81	36	44.44	65261	14.2	1701	36.91
Newborn	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	1.0	–	–
TOTAL	13362	12864	382	116	498	304	60.84	185657	13.9	5457	40.84

Board of Commissioners
Victoria General Hospital
Halifax, Nova Scotia

Gentlemen:

I have the honour to submit the One Hundred and Second Annual Report of the Victoria General Hospital for the year ending 31 December 1968.

During 1968 the Victoria General Hospital has, as usual, been extremely busy and has functioned under increased difficulties resulting from our program of renovation being carried on concurrently with our heavy operational load. It is with pride that we note how the staffs of all phases of the Hospital have adapted to this and have provided services and patient care of the Highest order.

The Renovation of Victoria is progressing extremely well and we expect to occupy several floors in the late Spring and early Summer of 1969 and that Stage IV will be completed by January 1970.

We welcome Mr. H. R. Wyman as Chairman and Doctor C. B. Stewart, Mr. David Birdsall and Mr. J. H. LeBrun as members of the Board of Commissioners, replacing Mr. G. R. Saunders and Mr. E. Gillis, both of whom have rendered years of service of the highest calibre.

SUMMARY OF PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 1968 TO JANUARY 1, 1969

Number of Patients Treated (In Patient: O. P. Clinic: Emergency	47,959
Number of Patients Admitted	13,353
Number of Patients Treated in Emergency	22,785
Number of Patients Treated in Out Patient Clinic	11,821
Average Hospital Days per Patient	13.81
Average Daily Occupancy	505
Total Hospital Days and Emergency	207,458
Percentage Occupancy	86%
Number Surgical Operations and Cystocopic Examinations	11,768
Total Deaths	498
Total Deaths Within 48 Hours	116

OPERATIONS

Surgical	9,628
Cystocopic	1,990
T.U.R.	150

During the year, refresher courses in certain specialties were provided for practitioners of the province. These courses are carried on by the Dalhousie Medical School and the Staffs of the various hospitals, but are held in the Victoria General Hospital.

Full time graduate training in the specialties of Internal Medicine, General Surgery, Urology, Gynaecology, Neurosurgery, Anaesthesia, Psychiatry, Pathology, Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology is being carried out.

Whatever success has been attained during the past year has been the result of the cooperation, loyalty and untiring efforts of all members of the staffs of every department making up the complex organization of the Hospital. To each and every one the administration extends its grateful thanks and wishes to emphasize its appreciation of their efforts.

The attending professional staff has given most freely of their time and skill in caring for the ward patients. To them we extend our appreciation and admiration of their fine work.

The unfailing response to all calls by the Hospital Chaplains and by Clergymen of all denominations is noted gratefully by the hospital and by the patients.

The Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic renders an invaluable service to the ill by its free supply of whole blood and plasma.

The Victoria General Hospital Auxiliary continues to render fine service to the patients and is expanding its scope of service to the institution.

The Halifax Police Department and the Halifax Fire Department have rendered service of the highest order to this institution at all times. Both departments have responded instantly to our many calls upon them and invariably have given the greatest cooperation and efficiency in dealing with our varied problems.

Our thanks go to the Honourable Minister, The Deputy Minister and all members of the Department of Public Health for aid, advice and encouragement at all times.

May I extend my thanks to you, the Board, for your interest and your efforts on behalf of this complex organization, The Victoria General Hospital.

I have the honour to be, Your obedient servant.

C. M. BETHUNE, M.D.
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

Number of Discharges:	
Firm I	445
Firm II	414
Firm III	365
Firm IV	382
Firm V	365
Firm VI	390
Consultations:	
Total	1,083

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

Number of Discharges:	
General Surgical Services	1,948
Orthopedic Service	380
Plastic Service	352
Breast Service	149
Total	2,829
Total Operations	3,398

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROSURGERY

Admissions	1,424
Discharges	1,331
Operations	1,841
Consultations	158

DEPARTMENT OF GYNAECOLOGY

Total number of patients admitted to the ward	1,183
Total abortions	294
Diagnosed malignant diseases (new & return)	294
Total patient visits to Out Patient Dept. (including Post-op. Clinic–206 and Endocrine Clinic–157	1,284
Total number of visits to Tumour Clinic	1,408

DEPARTMENT OF OTOLARYNGOLOGY

Total discharges	278
Surgical cases–197	
Medical cases– 81	
Out patient cases:	
Regular clinic–new	365
Regular clinic–return	651
Tumour clinic–new	20
Tumour clinic–return	122
Total clinic cases	1158

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Total discharges	163
Total number of surgical patients	106
Out Patient cases:	
Clinic visits–new	1009
Clinic visits–return	3116
Private patient visits	482

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Number of patients admitted to "In Patient Service"	425
Number of consultations answered from other services	405
Number of new patients seen in O.P.D.	675
Total visits made by these patients	8,616
Emergencies seen after 5 p.m.	940

DEPARTMENT OF DIAGNOSTIC RADIOLOGY

Number of patients	53,477
Number of examinations	76,590

DEPARTMENT OF UROLOGY

Total discharges	951
Number of consultations	310
Total operative procedures	2,469
which includes:	
Endoscopic examinations	1,990
Transurethral resections	150
Open Operative procedures	329

DEPARTMENT OF ANAESTHESIA

Anaesthetics Administered:

General	9,287
Spinal	181
Regional	137

DEPARTMENT OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE

No. of Staff X-Rayed	1,778
No. of Outpatients X-Rayed	8,197
No. of Hospital Patients X-Rayed	10,245
No. of Hospital Admissions	13,353

No. of visits by New Employees to the Immunization Clinic		780
No. of Immunization Procedures at the Immunization Clinics		
Regular Weekly Clinics	4,157	
Special Clinics		
Influenza Vaccine (Hong Kong)	77	
Typhoid & Paratyphoid A & B	93	
PPD (Heaf) Tests	332	
Int. PPD & PPD_2 Tests given (Dr. Service)	628	
B.C.G. Vaccinations (Dr. Service)	98	
TOTAL		5,385

No. of Physical Examinations done on Dietary Staff	273
No. of New Dietary Staff interviewed and arrangements made for Food Handlers Tests	224
Approximate number of Ill Staff seen	632
No. of Voluntary Workers (Acadia Room)	11

No. of Communicable Diseases Reported to the Medical Health Officers

Infectious Hepatitis	6
Lead Poisoning	3
Meningitis	6
Salmonella	4
Tuberculosis	21
Suspect Tuberculosis	13
Discharged on Anti-Tuberculous Drugs	7
For follow-up of Chest X-Ray Reports	20
Typhoid Carrier	1

Veneral Diseases		
Syphilis	123	
Gonorrhoea	49	
Suspect Veneral Disease	4	
Total	176	
Total Number Reported		257

DEPARTMENT OF RADIOTHERAPY

No. of Teletherapy (X-Ray and Cobalt) Treatments	17,731
No. of Teletherapy (X-Ray and Cobalt) Patients	708
No. of Radium Treatments	138
No. of Radium Patients	136
No. of Isotope Treatments	29
No. of Isotope Patients	2,100
No. of Isotope Tests	2,078
No. of Patients examined and not treated including reviews	656

NOVA SCOTIA TUMOUR CLINIC

CLINIC ATTENDANCE RECORD

Service	Total Number of Patients
Breast	1,170
Haematology	610
Gynaecology	1,408
Neurosurgery	95
Ophthalmology	34
Orthopaedics	23
Otolaryngology	142
Paediatrics	8
Urology	163
Surgery A	223
Surgery B	191
Surgery C	1,145
Surgery D	141
Private Patients	146
TOTAL	5,499

NEW CASES OF MALIGNANCY

Site	Total Number of Patients
Cancer Buccal Cavity & Pharynx	51
Carcinoma Digestive System	116
Biliary Passages and Liver	5
Carcinoma Respiratory System	85
Cancer Female Reproductive System	278
Cancer Bone	4
Cancer Eye	0
Cancer Brain and Nervous System	24
Cancer Connective Tissue	4
Lymphoma	34
Cancer Skin	98
Cancer Male Genital Organs	48
Carcinoma Urinary Organs	44
Leukemia	15
Primary Unknown	11
Thyroid	4
TOTAL	821
Number of deaths attributed to a malignancy	151
Autopsies	73

CLINICAL BACTERIOLOGY

Examinations	Uts.	IN PATIENTS		OUT PATIENTS		REFERRED IN		TOTAL CLINICAL	
		No.	Uts.	No.	Uts.	No.	Uts.	No.	Uts.
Auto. Vaccine	10	4	40	4	40			8	80
Blood Culture	6	2,959	17,754	92	552			3,051	18,306
Conjunctive Cult.	5	101	505	98	490			199	995
Fungus Cult.	7	1,005	7,035	59	413			1,064	7,448
Miscellaneous Cult.	6	5,520	33,120	620	3,720			6,140	36,840
Miscellaneous Smear	2	20	40	18	36			38	76
Sputum Culture	6	4,593	27,558	322	1932			4,915	29,490
Sterility Autoclave or Supplies	1	915	915	24	24			939	939
Routine Throat Cult.	5	698	3,490	188	940			886	4,430
Throat Culture Staph. & Strep.	4	5	20	–	–			5	20
Disc. Sensitivity Prim. Direct	1	–	–	–	–			–	–
Disc. Sensitivity Prim. Indirect	2	–	–	–	–			–	–
Disc. Sensitivity Secondary	4	11,192	44,768	1,123	4,492			12,315	49,260
Urine Culture	6	10,818	64,908	817	4,902			11,635	69,810
Cysto 2 Urines	8	14	112	–	–			14	112
Cysto 3 Urines	9	10	90	–	–			10	90
Strept Grouping	2	362	724	69	138			431	862
Antibiotic Level	5	25	125	–	–			25	125
Bacterial Count	2	25	50	–	–			25	50
Microscopie Exam	2	17	34	–	–			17	34
Darkfield Exam.	3	1	3	–	–			1	3
Tube Dilution Sens.	5	1	5	–	–			1	5
TOTAL		38,285	201,296	3,434	17,679			41,719	218,975

PHARMACY

The dispensing and manufacturing for the year may be summed up as follows:

Prescriptions to Bed Patients	65,005	
Prescriptions to Out Patients and Student Nurses	32,821	
Prescriptions to Staff	1,048	
Prescriptions to Medical Doctors	1,000	(Approx.)
Solutions made	5,175	gals.
Lotions and Emulsions made	25	gals.
Ointments compounded	150	lbs.
Sterile Irrigating Solutions	650	gals.
Special Sterile Injections made	100	vials

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

Public patients	16,176
Private patients	1,026
Return visits	1,353
Patients treated and admitted through Emergency	4,230
Total number of patients treated	22,785
Ambulance calls	2,984

BLOOD SERVICE

Number of units of blood received	17,689
Number of units of blood used	7,429
Number of patients transfused	1,862

BMR

BMR'S:

Ward Patients	47
O.P.D. Patients	8
Private In Patients	13
Private Out Patients	6

EEG

Number of In Patients	965
Number of Out Patients	787
Number of Out Patient Dept. patients	153
Total for year	1905

Comparison:

In Patients	Out Patients	O.P.D.	Total
892	781	140	1812
965	787	153	1905

EKG

ELECTROCARDIOGRAMS:

Ward	7102	
Private In-Patients	2080	
Private Out-Patients	1719	
O.P.D.	668	
Tumor Clinic	4	
TOTAL		11,573

CENTRAL SUPPLY

Treatment trays issued	97,295
Solutions	45,305
Catheters, Syringes, etc.	395,154
Sterile Dressing, etc.	107,625

This Department has sterilized a large volume of O.R. linen bundles, instrument bundles and supplies of all types to supply the demand for Cardiac Unit, Neuro O.R., O.R. 10th Floor, O.R. 11th Floor and Emergency Department.

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

Autopsies	223
Surgicals	7,076
Frozens	403
Cytology	38,946
Haematology	174,244
Biochemistry	255,319

The above figures represent number of Tests performed for the Victoria General Hospital

DEPARTMENT OF SEROLOGY & BACTERIOLOGY

Clinical Bacteriology	226,339
Serology	17,503
Virology	6,801

DEPARTMENT OF DENTISTRY

Number of New Patients	412
Number of Clinic Visits	839
Procedures:	
1. Biopsy	29
2. Extraction Cases	276
3. Fractures	7
4. Infections	54
5. Miscellaneous	434

DIETARY DEPARTMENT

MEALS SERVED

Out Patients	1,221
Diabetic Day Care	1,995
Scotia Rooms Meals	466,818
Patients Meals	691,922
Nurses Infirmary	3,053
TOTAL	1,165,009

SPECIAL DIETS (Included in Above Count)

Patients	146,274

DIABETIC DIETS

Patients	30,705
Diabetic Day Care	5,985
TOTAL	36,690

THERAPEUTIC DIETETICS

All patients, on both house and therapeutic diets, are visited daily by a representative of the Dietary Department.

An average of 60 diet instructions per month were given by the Therapeutic Dietitians.

SOCIAL SERVICE

Number of patients receiving Social Service in 1968	2,115
Number of In-patients	1,128
Number of Out-patients	927
Medico-Social Problems Treated (average per month)	
Planning for Nursing or Post Hospital Care	50
Social and/or Family Problems	51
Planning for prothesis & medication	68
Social Assessment	97
Economic Problems	94
Post Hospital Accommodation	19
Transportation to or from V.G.H.	31
Emotional Problems Related to Illness	39
Rehabilitation Planning	20
Individual Personality Adjustment	41
Other	61
Total Units of Service to Patients	19,253
Lectures	
To Student Nurses	43
To Medical Students	24
To Social Work Students	21
Consultative Conference and Clinics	1,026
Department Staff Meetings	21
Addresses to Community Groups	8

OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

PATIENT VISITS	
Number of clinic patient visits	37,977
Number of private patient visits	1,889
TOTAL OUT PATIENT VISITS	39,866
Number of New Clinic Patients	3,726
Number of Return Clinic Patients	6,206
TOTAL NUMBER OF CLINIC PATIENTS	9,932
Number of Private Patients	1,889
TOTAL NUMBER OF OUT PATIENTS (Includes Clinic and Private)	11,821

CLINIC STATISTICS

	Number of Patients Treated	Number of Patient Visits
Allergy	45	296
Anti-Coagulant	35	386
Arthritic	207	733
Chest	68	214
Chiropody	70	228
Dermatology	363	1,064
Diabetic	151	1,603
Diabetic Day	119	616
E.N.T. (Includes Tumor)	617	1,219
Endocrine	83	271
Eye	1,600	3,468
Glaucoma	140	636
Glaucoma Test (Private)	388	482
G. I.	27	62
Gynecology	441	921
Gynecology-Endocrine	27	157
Gynecology Post-Op	197	206
Gynecology Tumor	812	1,382
Heart	115	389
Haematology (Includes Tumor)	132	584
Hypertensive	18	84
Inhalation Therapy	66	2,298
Medical	1,193	3,849
Neuro-Surgery (Includes Tumor)	221	367
Neurology	223	561
Orthopaedic	474	1,256
Plastic Surgery	298	640
Psychiatry	1,259	8,623
Renal	11	27
Surgery	1,600	3,517
Special Arthritic	22	23
Special Cardiac	131	220
Special Chest	12	17
Urology (Includes Tumor)	468	865
Veneral Disease	237	713
TOTAL CLINIC VISITS		37,977

HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS

Referred for admission to Victoria General Hospital	1,228
Referred for admission to Children's Hospital	57
	1,285

NURSING DEPARTMENT

STUDENT ENROLMENT

Students in School 31 December 1967	334
(Class of 68	102
Class of 69	100
Class of 70	132)
Admitted, Class of 71	103
Re-entered	3
Disqualified	10
Withdrew	28
Completed course	97
Students in School 31 December 1968	305
(Class of 69	98
Class of 70	111
Class of 71	96)

ATTRITION RATE

Class of 68	4.9%	(total over 3 years 21.1%)
Class of 69	5 %	(total to date 19 %)
Class of 70	15.9%	(total to date 22.9%)
Class of 71	6.8%	